



Science-Policy Interface online webinar

An Eclipse and Alternet co-organized event, in collaboration with Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ

Biodiversity and pandemics: realising interdisciplinary research and promoting action priorities.

Monday March, 11th 2024 from 12.00 to 13:30 CET

The webinar is FREE of charge and will be held in English.

REGISTRATION: <https://forms.gle/x6jEgrKdcWvGsfhE8>

We hope you can join us. After your registration, you will receive a confirmation email and the link to connect will be sent by Friday March 8th.

The webinar “Biodiversity and pandemics: realising interdisciplinary research and promoting action priorities” will discuss the results of the [knowledge synthesis report](#) developed by a transdisciplinary [Eclipse Expert Working Group](#). Through the presentation and the discussion around the identified and prioritized research gaps related to the topic and possible policy recommendations, the Expert Working Group and the panelists coming from both science and policy, hope to inform and foster dialogue with the participants of the webinar through an interactive session, which will underline the importance of science - policy interface to design future research agendas, support interdisciplinary research and better link with action priorities at the local, european and international level.

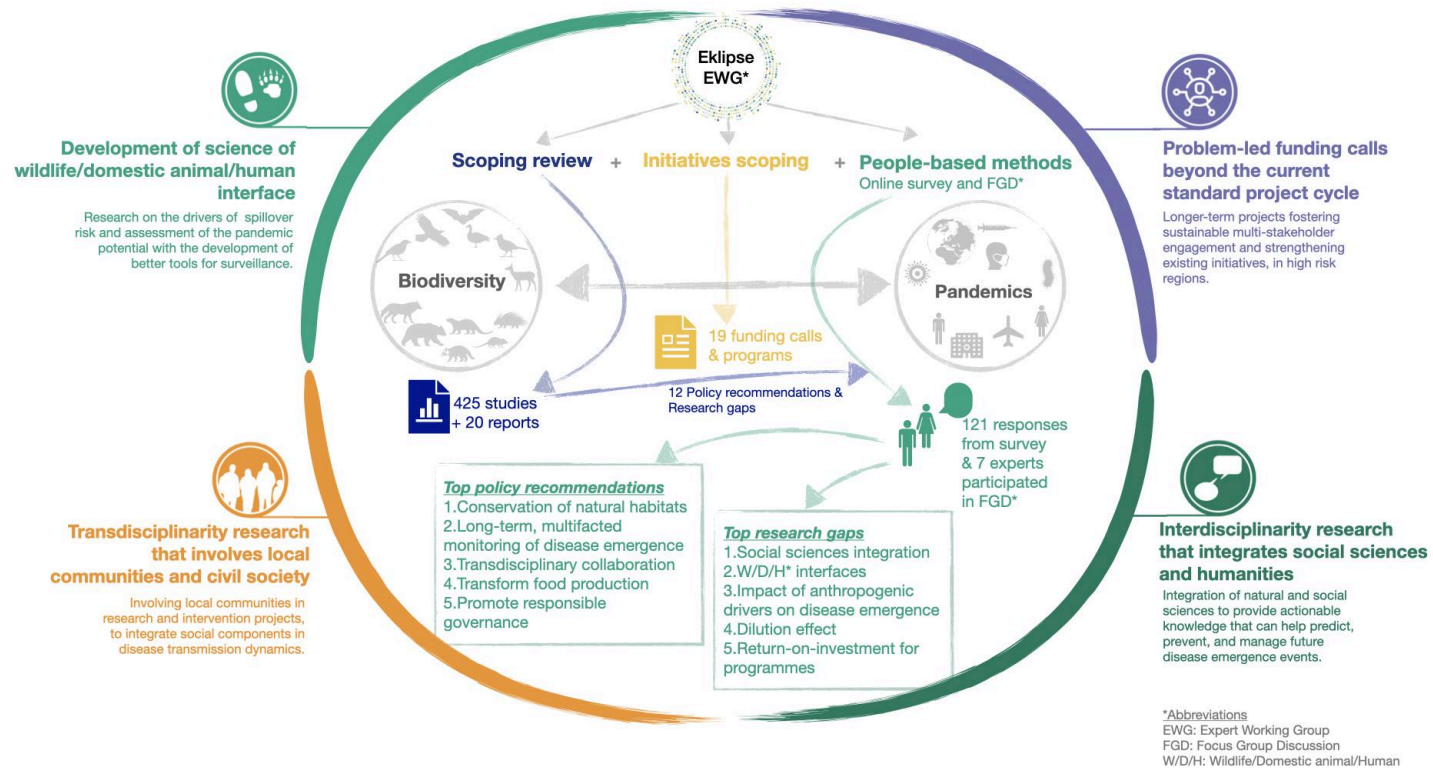


Figure 1. Graphical abstract of the Eclipse request on Biodiversity and pandemics

Programme

Opening

- **Jiska Van Dijk**, Alternet Network Council Chair.

Introductory keynote

- **Christina Pantazi**, European Commission's Directorate-General for Research & Innovation (EC-DG R&I)

Results & recommendations from the knowledge synthesis report “Biodiversity and pandemics: Interdisciplinary research and action priorities”

- **Julie Shapiro**, co-chair of the Eclipse Expert Working Group on Biodiversity and pandemics, ANSES

Panel and open discussion: importance of cross-sectoral and transdisciplinary collaboration and feedback to policy

Panelists:

- **Carlos G. Das Neves**, Chief scientist European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), IPBES Nexus, member of the Lancet One Health Commission
- **Lucinda Kirkpatrick**, Lecturer in Wildlife Ecology at Bangor University in North Wales, EVECO research group at the University of Antwerp, coordinator of the project “Restoring Ecosystems to Stop the Threat Of Re - Emerging Infectious Disease” (RESTOREID)
- **Thomas C. Mettenleiter**, One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP), President (retired) of Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, German Federal Research Institute for Animal Health
- **Christina Pantazi**, Biodiversity officer at DG Research & Innovation, European Commission
- **Benjamin Roche**, Co-founder and Global Science Leader, Prezode

Moderator:

- **Alister J. Scott**, Northumbria University Newcastle, Co-chair of the Eclipse Methods Expert Group.

Closure and next steps

Panelists from policy and science:

- Carlos G. Das Neves is the chief scientist of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), having served previously as the director of research and internationalization of the Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NVI). He holds a joint position as full professor at the faculty of medical sciences at the University of Tromsø. Prof. das Neves has worked in the field of wildlife diseases, and has experience on topics related to One Health, emerging threats, wildlife health and food safety and systems. He has a strong background in science to policy translation, advocacy and societal awareness. He is also a commissioner of the Lancet One Health Commission, a member of the Global 1 Health Network and of the One Sustainable Health Forum and a lead author on the ongoing IPBES Nexus assessment. He is a member of the IUCN Wildlife Health Specialist Group, and has served previously as the President of the Wildlife Disease Association.
- Lucinda Kirkpatrick is a lecturer in Wildlife Ecology at Bangor University in North Wales, and affiliated with the EVECO research group at the University of Antwerp. Her research interests lie in understanding how landscape management impacts species diversity and behaviour, and the consequences for population level processes such as disease spillover. Restoration landscapes are a particular interest, in the hopes that we can restore our natural environment in a safe and pathogen aware manner to create healthy, functioning landscapes. She is a coordinator of the EU project “Restoring Ecosystems to Stop the Threat Of Re - Emerging Infectious Disease” (RESTOREID).
- Thomas C. Mettenleiter studied biology from 1977 to 1982 and earned his doctoral degree in 1985 in Tübingen. After postdoctoral studies in Tübingen and Nashville/USA he chaired the Institute of Molecular Virology and Cell Biology at the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI), on the island of Riems. He was president of the FLI from July 1996 to June 2023. His main field of research is animal virus infections. He is a member of several scientific academies and national as well as international committees including founding co-chair of the „One Health High Level Expert Panel” jointly initiated by WHO, WOA, FAO, and UNEP.
- Christina Pantazi started her professional career at the Ministry of Environment in Cyprus, mainly dealing with nature protection. In 2011 she came to Brussels to be part of the presidency team during the Cyprus Presidency of the EU. After 5 years in the Permanent Representation, she became a policy officer in the nature unit of DG ENV, where she worked for another 5 years. Since 2021 she is working in DG Research and Innovation in the area of biodiversity protection.
- Benjamin Roche is a research Director at the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD). He is a co-founder and Global Science Leader of the PREZODE initiative, which gathers more than 230 institutions and 25 governments to prevent zoonotic disease emergence. His research focus on the link between biodiversity loss and emergence of zoonoses in order to better prevent new emerging infections outbreaks.